

Glenda FYI. One given 2009 commissioner. 3-11-09

Important Considerations – Looking Ahead to the Future

Wouldn't it be nice to have a place to relocate county departments and have a good source of low-cost gravel without a hassle, such as when the Road Department needed material from the Lost Horse Quarry?

What I am referring to is at some point in time the Road Department shop and operations, the Bitter Root Humane Society, and the Search and Rescue buildings will be forced to move due to encroachment , such as fairground road improvement and noise problems related to residential encroachment.

Good locations for the above could be made available on airport property at fair-market value rates (as required by the Federal Aviation Administration [FAA]) and minimal hassle from that element of the public who do not want these community operations in their neighborhoods.

We need to come into safety compliance, thus insuring future FAA funding for our airport, limiting any liability issues and complying with Federal Grant Assurances previously signed by county officials, one of which is the airport sponsors agreeing to protect the airport from incompatible development. At the same time, the County would acquire many potential future benefits, such as centrally located gravel availability for future relocation of county departments as well as a possible industrial park.

All of the above can be insured at little or no cost to Ravalli County by merely accepting the SAFETY recommendations of the FAA and the recommendations of the Ravalli County Airport Advisory Board. We need to accept the Environmental Assessment (E.A.) and the recommendation that we pursue Option Four. The recommended land purchase to the north and east of the airport is essential to ensure protection from incompatible development.

The future of Ravalli County is dependent upon good decisions at this time. Option 4 of the E.A. will help provide for the future and also make commissioners' decisions much easier.

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Ravalli County Commissioners

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